



ELK GROVE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Fire ■ Emergency Medical Services ■ Parks & Recreation

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Public Service Announcement

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NEW FIRE TRAINING GROUNDS SET TO OPEN MAY 15

Elk Grove, CA – Firefighters in Elk Grove will soon have a new place to refine their skills and learn new techniques when the Elk Grove Community Services District (CSD) officially opens the William Perry Schulze Fire Training Facility next week. The District will host a public grand opening and dedication celebration at the facility on Saturday, May 15 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Situated in Elk Grove's light industrial district at 10573 East Stockton Boulevard, the two acre facility offers state of the art firefighting and rescue amenities including California's first swift water rescue prop, two classrooms, a railcar prop, six exterior propane burn props, a confined space rescue area, and a five story burn tower. At a price tag just under \$3 million, the facility also includes several environmentally friendly attributes including a sophisticated underground water retention and recycling system.



"This training facility is unlike anything seen before in Sacramento," explained Elk Grove Fire Chief Keith Grueneberg. "The props and equipment brought onto the site will challenge and educate our people to be better responders and will be made available to other organizations to do the same."

Prior to the development of the facility, training for Elk Grove CSD fire personnel was limited to classroom sessions in the fire stations, makeshift drill sites around the community, and travel to the burn tower in Roseville once a year. The new facility will vastly improve the quality and frequency of training for on-duty companies without disrupting community life.

District officials expect the facility will also host training sessions for neighboring fire departments, law enforcement agencies, and even statewide certified classes. Just days after the official opening, the facility will host "Firefighting 101," an event for the region's top elected officials, in conjunction with Firefighters Local 522, Sacramento Fire Department, and Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District.

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Activities scheduled during the grand opening on May 15th are open to the public and will include a dedication ceremony honoring the late Elk Grove Fire Chief, William Perry Schulze. Chief Schulze was the first full time paid Fire Chief in Sacramento County and served as Elk Grove's Fire Chief for 29 years before stepping down to serve for five more years as Elk Grove's Fire Marshal. Chief Schulze passed away in 1985. Members of the Schulze family will attend Saturday's ceremonies.

A ribbon cutting, facility tours, equipment displays, and live demonstrations are scheduled immediately following the ceremony – and last until 2 p.m. Residents of all ages are invited to attend. For more information, contact the Elk Grove CSD Fire Department at (916) 685-9502.

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Photo Caption: Firefighters train on one of the new exterior burn props in anticipation of the training facility's grand opening on May 15.

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